



Pen City Current

Sunday, June 18, 2017 | 10 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 149

P.O.R.T on tap for City Council meeting

Council also to consider incentive package for hotel

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The second and third phases of the Fort Madison recreational trail will be in front of the city council on Tuesday evening.

At their regular meeting Tuesday night at 5:30, the council will vote on a resolution awarding construction of Phase II to Jones Contracting of West Point, Iowa in the amount of \$147,777. The next phase will be a cement path built con-

necting the first path near Ivanhoe Park with 48th street along an easement just sold to the city by the Fort Madison Community School district.

The path will be an east-west run from the current path to 48th Street. Future plans, or Phase III, calls for this path to be connected to a trail head right across from Avenue L at 48th

Street. The path will run west 2,300 feet to the current Fort Madison Community Hospital's outdoor exercise path.

The Council will also be voting on a resolution to apply for an Iowa Department of Transportation TAP (Transportation Alternative Program) grant that would provide up to 80 percent of the cost of Phase III in reimburse-



ment funds if the city kicks in 20% of the cost of the project.

Phase 1 of the Promot- See **COUNCIL**, page 2

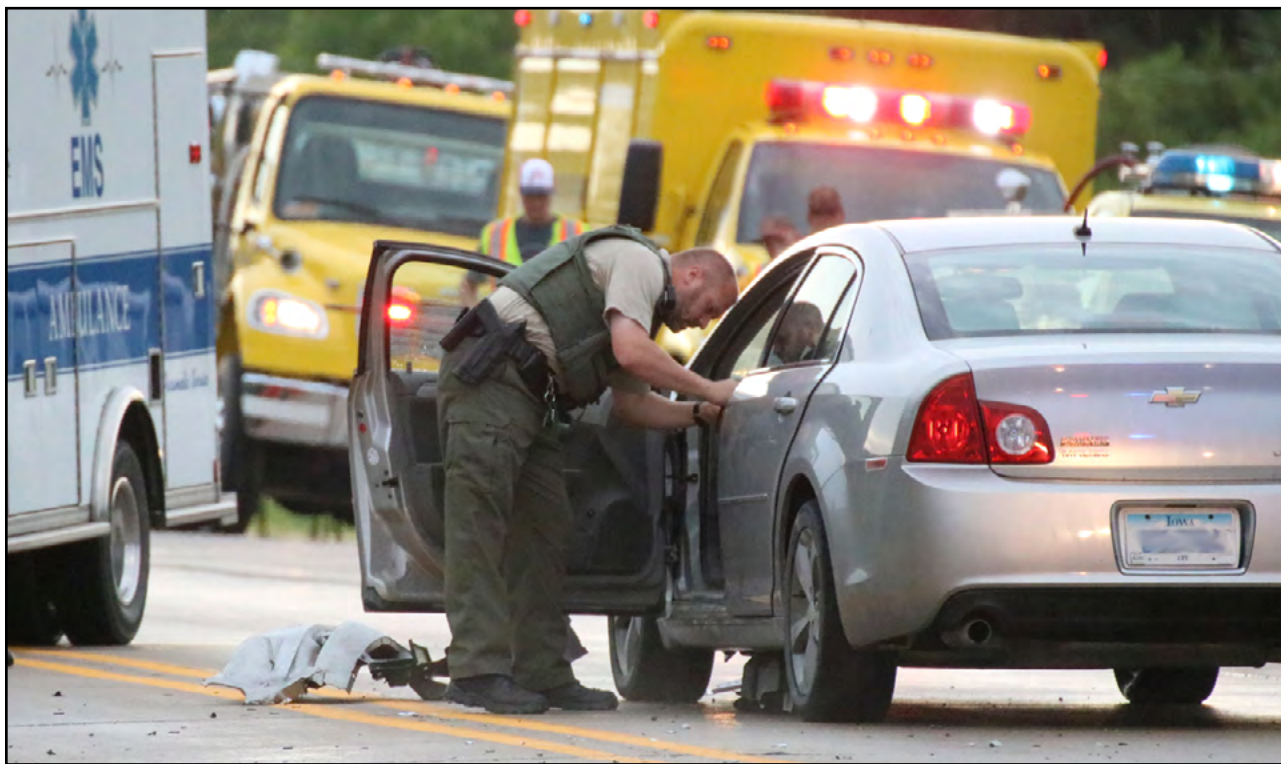


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

A Lee County Sheriff gets information from a vehicle involved in a two-vehicle accident Wednesday evening at the intersection of Hwy 2 and X23. The Chevrolet Malibu pictured here and a pick-up truck collided when the driver of the truck allegedly entered Hwy 2 without yielding. Both drivers were taken to FMCH for injuries.

Keokuk man busted with drugs, a firearm

PCC STAFF

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man on felony and misdemeanor drug charges.

Isaac Isaiah Seay, 34, of 1209 Blondeau Street, Keokuk, Iowa was arrested on June 10th, 2017 in the 700 block of Ridge Street in Keokuk on felony and misdemeanor drug charges. Seay is charged with Possession of Marijuana with the Intent to Deliver in Possession of a Firearm, a class D felony with an enhancement,

Drug Tax Stamp Violation, a class D felony, Possession of a Controlled Substance (Marijuana), a serious misdemeanor, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor. If convicted, Seay faces up to 16 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility.

The arrest of Seay stems from a traffic stop conducted by an officer with the Keokuk Police Department. During the course of the traffic stop, items that support

See **BUST**, page 3

BESIDE THE POINT

Empty Nesting is driving me crazy

In the fall of 2011 I had an emotional breakdown. I don't cry very much as an adult, but I sobbed like a baby filling my tank with gas outside of the University of Central Florida, I think it was Hess station. I remember facing east, tears running down my face, and in a full bodied cry as I just dropped off my oldest daughter at college and was heading back to Iowa.

This was the same girl that made me cry when she was eating a french fry, I think she was, like, six at the time, and ate too far down forgetting to move her fingers back in time. I looked over to see huge crocodile tears running down her face.

"What's wrong, honey?"

"I bit my finger eating my french fry," she said breaking into a full cry. I got that nervy feeling in my stomach you get just before you tear up. It was heart-breaking. Dad hadn't taught her the proper way to eat a french fry.

Now my youngest is skipping her senior year at FMHS and going on to college as part of an academy that brings about a dozen students to the University of Iowa. She's earned it and I couldn't be more proud of a child. I worry about the social implications of skipping your senior year of high school to go off to college, but I'm comforted that the academy is filled with two grades of students just like her ready to begin the process.

So I find myself facing a life with an awesome wife

See **COLLEGE**, page 8



C. VANDENBERG

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From the Front/Local News

City to vote on Boulders incentives

COUNCIL - Continued from Page 1

ing Outdoor Recreational Trails project is nearing completion according to committee chairwoman Rachel Benda.

“Things are really moving along well,” she said. “We’re finishing up the added touches on Phase I including lighting, fencing, benches, etc. Phase II should be breaking ground soon. Now we’re seeking TAP money for Phase III.”

According to City Manager David Varley, Phase II of the project should begin and be completed before the end of the summer if everything goes according to plans.

The council will also be voting to hold a public

hearing on an incentive offer to Boulders Inn & Suites as part of the new construction at the hotel.

The city gave the company about \$400,000 in incentives when the first section of the hotel was built in 2014 under an urban development agreement with the city. Varley said the hotel came back to the city when they executed plans for the 38-room addition.

“They came to the city again and we put together another incentive package for them,” Varley said.

“They wanted \$600,000, \$300,000 up front and then the \$300,000 rebate on property taxes on the new addition. We thought

that was a little high. The package will be the same as the first package except we’re recommending the council give them \$250,000 up front and \$250,000 capped on property tax rebates over six years.”

Under the initial agreement, when the hotel was first built, the city paid \$200,000 up front in a forgivable loan and then rebated the lesser of \$200,000 or 80% of the increased tax on the property valuation over five years. The new agreement proposes \$250,000 up front and then a rebate of the lesser of \$250,000 or 80% of the increased tax over six years.

In other action, the council;

- will consider a support resolution for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of 1,000 feet of trail surface at Rodeo Park.

- will consider a resolution authorizing \$110,000 in seal coating projects for the city with W. L. Miller Company of Hamilton, Ill.

- will consider a resolution approving a contract for transportation services between the city and Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission.

- will consider a 2nd Amendment to the city’s Urban Renewal Program.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 18 Jun



Moderate Rain
Low – 63.7° F | High – 73.4° F

MON 19 Jun



Clear Skies
Low – 60.4° F | High – 74.5° F

TUE 20 Jun



Light Rain
Low – 62.4° F | High – 74.2° F

WED 21 Jun



Clear Skies
Low – 57.3° F | High – 74.9° F

THU 22 Jun



Clear Skies
Low – 66.2° F | High – 78.9° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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Fort Madison, IA

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FMAAA Garden Tour winner

Theresa Stolley was the winner of the Scotts Miracle-Gro product raffle last Sunday at the 2017 FMAAA Annual Garden Tour. “My husband is a master gardener who has given seeds to our local conservation agency; we will look forward to using them.”

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Local News/For the Record

Suspect charged with felony, misdemeanors

BUST - Continued from Page 1

the charges were discovered. The Lee County Narcotics Task Force responded to the scene to conduct an investigation and as a result, Seay faces felony and misdemeanor drug charges.

The Lee County Attorney's Office and the Keokuk Police Department assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
 06/15/17 - 7:18 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 3200 block of Avenue L.
 06/15/17 - 11:36 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 700 block of Eighth Street.
 06/15/17 - 2:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2500 block of Hwy 61.

06/15/17 - 5:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 500 block of 10th Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Report
 06/15/17 - 5:50 p.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Christopher Allen Krogmeier, 39, of Fort Madison in the 100 block of 110th Street in St. Paul on warrant for escape from custody and a judgement hold. He was taken to the

Lee County Jail and held.
 06/15/17 - 9:59 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Chance David Beach, 24 of Wever, at the Lee County Sheriff's office on a charge of 3rd degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail and then released on bond.
 06/15/17 - 5:22 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a report of two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy 2 and County Road X23. According

to the report, a vehicle driven by James Ricky Rea, 71 of Niota pulled into traffic in front of a vehicle driven by Dana Sue Millard, 29 of Salem, traveling west on Hwy 2. The two vehicles collided and Millard was sent to FMCH with injuries. Rea was transported by private party to FMCH and was cited for failure to yield. Donnellson Fire & Rescue responded to the scene. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*



IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS



6/16
 18 22 26 30 44
 Mega Ball: 9
 Megaplier: 5



6/17
 10 13 32 53 62
 Powerball: 21
 Power Play: 2

Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Hot Lotto®	Wed & Sat	8:18 pm	9:40 pm
All or Nothing™ - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:45 pm
All or Nothing™ - Evening	Daily	8:00 pm	8:45 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:50 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	8:00 pm	8:50 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:50 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	8:00 pm	8:50 pm



6/17
 14 17 22 38 39
 Hot Ball: 6
 Sizzler: 3



6/16 MID-DAY
 1 2 5 9 11 12
 15 16 20 21 22 23

6/16 EVENING
 5 6 7 8 11 13
 15 17 19 20 23 24



6/17 MID-DAY
 1 2 4 7 12 13
 14 15 17 19 20 24

6/17 EVENING
 2 5 10 11 12 15
 17 18 19 21 22 23



6/16 MID-DAY
 3 7 3
6/16 EVENING
 4 6 6

6/17 MID-DAY
 7 8 2
6/17 EVENING
 0 3 8



6/16 MID-DAY
 7 0 1 2
6/16 EVENING
 7 8 0 1

6/17 MID-DAY
 3 5 6 4
6/17 EVENING
 5 8 1 0

The Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

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 AUGUST 26, 2017
 4 PM - 12 AM

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 Matt Lafrenz - Country Financial, Hy-Vee, J&S Electronics

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Starting at 4pm

The Voice Singing Competition
Starting at 5pm

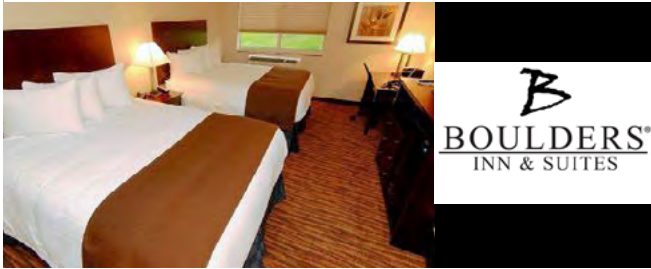
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2323 & 2327 Avenue C
3BR • 3BA • 1 car garage

2 well-maintained homes for the price of 1! Owners gutted both homes & re-modeled. Live in the bigger home and rent the other out. Fantastic opportunity! *Listing #20165268, \$124,900.*



631 Avenue D

4BR • 2BA • 2 car garage

Beautiful victorian home on a quiet street with an amazing wrap-around porch. All the modern conveniences. Quite a charmer! *Listing #20165372, \$124,900.*



620 34th Street

2BR • 2BA • 3 car garage

Motivated seller has reduced their asking price! Completely renovated home. This beautiful home won't be on the market long! *Listing #20165503, \$138,500.*



2160 Grand Venture Avenue
3BR • 4BA • 3 car garage

Amazing home in a private, wooded 7.5 acre setting just minutes from Fort Madison. Approximately 6 acres are timber and ravine woods. *Listing #20165295, \$309,900.*



939 Avenue G

Turn Key Office Space

Freshly finished office space in historic downtown Fort Madison with private offices, kitchen area, and phone system in place and ready to use! *Listing #20165675, \$79,500.*



2634 Avenue G

Very cute, well-maintained home in a great neighborhood! Perfect for a small family or retired couple. Come take a look as this one will sell quickly! *Listing #20165688, \$94,500.*



There are hundreds of great listings in the area and we can show all of them to you. Give us a call today or click here to search them!





2 BR • 1 BA • 1 car garage
 Quality and beauty! Many updates and upgrades including a new concrete patio/carport with surround sound and mood lighting, new kitchen, bath and lighting throughout. This is an AMAZING house that you MUST see to appreciate!!!
Listing #20164622 • \$88,000



3 BR • 2 BA • 2 car garage
1,168 sq. ft. • 0.54 acres
 Lovely family home comfortably situated at the end of a cul de sac, where you can enjoy the woods and the privacy! There is an inviting deck off the back of the home overlooking the woods and beautiful vinyl fencing. There are newer mechanicals and a newer roof, 2 fireplaces and lots of storage!! Don't miss out on this beauty.
Listing #20163951 • \$129,000



5BR • 2.50BA • 2 car garage
2,834 sq. ft.
14,868 sq. ft. lot
 Amazing family home on a large corner lot in Farmington, IA. 2 fireplaces, beautiful woodwork, a beautiful open front porch, a large yard and an oversized garage!!
Listing #20164117 • \$127,500



2BR • 1BA • 1 car garage
1,224 sq. ft.
7,250 sq. ft. lot
 A house with character! Wrap-around porch, original hardwood in formal dining room/living room combo, main floor laundry, nice size eat-in kitchen including appliances, dining room has original fireplace, basement and 1 car garage.
Listing #20162543 • \$53,000



5BR • 1.75BA • 1 car garage
1,904 sq. ft. • 1,903 sq. ft. lot
 Great family home on large corner lot in the middle of Ft. Madison. Large living / dining area with original craftsman woodwork and built-ins, 14 x 22 garage on the alley with 2 additional storage sheds. Nice front porch, rear deck, and a great sunroom on the East.
Listing #20162346
\$86,950



4BR • 1.50BA
1,706 sq. ft. • 7,250 sq. ft. lot
 This spacious home has it all, the character of a turn of the century home; beautiful woodwork, beamed ceilings, window seat, columns, and large covered front porch, yet also includes MANY updates. Call today for your private viewing!
Listing #20164725 • \$92,000



3BR • 1.75BA • 2 car garage
1,772 sq. ft. • 0.57 acres
 Great family home with LOTS OF NEW! New kitchen, bathroom, windows, most flooring, wrap around deck, ceiling fans, light fixtures, furnace and central air! Beautiful neutral decor and window treatments make this a must see! All this and a 2 car heated garage
Listing #20164861 • \$157,500.



3BR • 1BA • 1 car garage
928 sq. ft. • 1,087 sq. ft. lot
 Very nice maintenancefree home by Lincoln School with a 75 X 145 fenced yard, nice patio, fire pit and child's play set! Some very nice built-ins, some original hardwood flooring, full basement including laundry area. Also find extra parking, garage and carport area on the paved alley.
Listing #20164148 • \$72,500



3 BR • 2 BA • 1 car garage
2,260 sq. ft.
6,784 sq. ft. lot
 Lots of new! Semi open floor plan, new flooring, great open basement family space, and many updates including heat/air units, kitchen back splash, counters and more! Fenced in back yard with stamped concrete patio and awning. Call today to see this great home in a quiet neighborhood.
Listing #20164544 • \$139,900



4BR • 2BA • 2 car garage
1,260 sq. ft. • 4.59 acres
 Custom Designed, Energy Efficient home with an open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, on a hard surface road. Includes large deck extends the entire back length of the house, master bedroom that opens up to the back deck, jack and jill master bath and second bedroom. The property also includes an oversized 2 car garage with a heated workshop attached.
Listing #20164982 • \$191,500



3BR • 1BA • 2 car garage
1,488 sq. ft. • 16,247 sq. ft. lot
 Has been owned by this seller since 1960!!! Large eat-in kitchen with newly tiled floor includes stove, microwave, washer and dryer, main floor laundry (in bedroom), formal dining room with built-in hutch, and spacious living room. The house sits on a HUGE lot and has a nice 2 car garage in back. Home has Gas Heat and central air with maintenance-free siding on house and garage.
Listing #20165151 • \$55,900



2BR • 1BA • 2 car garage
930 sq. ft. • 7,280 sq. ft. lot
 This 2 bedroom home in Montrose has been a rental property and sells as is. Priced way below assessed value to sell quickly!
Listing #20164279 • \$38,500





NEW PRICE

**5BR • 3BA
3,119 sq. ft.**

14,500 sq. ft. lot

From the period wrought iron fencing to the amazing stained oak staircase...from the impressive arches to the large wrap porch, this beautiful turn of the century (20th) home offers all the beauty and elegance of that era. This is a beautifully appointed home with all the modern conveniences. There is an extra large lot for your family to enjoy!!

Listing #20162159 • \$149,500



**2BR • 1.75BA • 2 car garage
679 sq. ft. • 6,500 sq. ft. lot**
Nice, small home. Seller has purchased and remodeled. Excellent condition.

Listing #20164161 • \$62,500



REDUCED

**3BR • 3BA
2,754 sq. ft.
3,550 sq. ft. lot**

Gorgeous, turn-key home with large patio minimum maintenance. UPDATES GALORE!!! Practically perfect in every way, this 1841 home includes the latest improvements while keeping its Victorian charm.

Listing #23006122 • \$99,999



REDUCED

**4 BR • 1.75 BA
3 car garage • 2,052 sq. ft.
8,700 sq. ft. lot**

Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24' X 36' insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.

Listing #20163776 • \$129,500



**3 BR • 1 BA • 1 car garage
1,248 sq. ft. • 0.37 acres**

Well-kept ranch on a beautiful, large corner lot in West Point, IA. New wooden privacy fence surrounding the entire back yard. There is also an attached garage and storage shed. A large wooden deck leads to the front door where you can sit and enjoy those beautiful Iowa summer sunsets! PLUS a covered deck in the back for those rainy days. This house is a rare find.

Listing #20164234 • \$119,900



**2BR • 2BA • 3 car garage
1,404 sq. ft. • 1.42 acres**

Upgrades, improvements, updates...call it what you like, this home has had MANY in the last 2 plus years. This seller has completely refurbished the hill to the north of the home with new landscaping finishes. This is a must see property!!! It has enough room for your family and then some!!!

Listing #20164991 • \$129,900



**3BR • 1BA
1,432 sq. ft. • 5,500 sq. ft. lot**

This UPDATED, MOVE-IN READY, CHARMING 3 bedroom home will make an awesome family home!!! This gem has all new windows throughout, exterior doors, deck, plumbing, & NEW roof on house & garage. So come check it out! This is a MUST SEE!!!

Listing #20165237 • \$92,500



PENDING

2 car garage • 2,527 sq. ft.
UNIQUELY beautiful 9.38 river bluff acreage. This home boasts many updates including complete master suite, heat and A/C, Septic system, deck, roof & gutters, flooring, and the list goes on. This private property includes fenced in barn area for animal lovers, mature fruit trees plus trees have been dropped for a beautiful panoramic river view that will last for years! Owner also plans to leave a John Deer mower and new snow blower!!

Listing #20162733 • \$269,000



**3 BR • 2.50 BA
2 car garage • 1,194 sq. ft.
10,400 sq. ft. lot**

Great family home is move-in ready. Nice-sized kitchen with all appliances, dining area, and nice living room all on the upper level. Completely re-modeled family room with a wood burning fireplace on lower level. Many updates include newer flooring, roof and HVAC system.

Listing #20164531 \$114,900



Land

14.65 acres • 638,514 sq. ft.
Just outside city limits, perfect for housing development or small farm for horses or small livestock, over half tillable. City water is available. 30' X 60' building is totally insulated, heated and air conditioned with 200 amp service.

Listing #20162574 • \$249,000



**3BR • 1.75BA • 1 car garage
888 sq. ft. • 9,450 sq. ft. lot**

RARE RANCH with large fenced back yard and attached garage! Updated windows and kitchen, newer HVAC and water heater. Family Room in the basement. Just waiting for your own personal touch!

Listing #20163423 • \$74,900



Land

**50.82 acres
2,213,719 sq. ft.**

Ideal 50 acre m/l parcel to develop. Close to new 4-8 Middle School and Baxter Rec Plex. TREMENDOUS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY.

Listing #20162779 • \$559,020



Opinion/From the Front

Parents look for anything to fill void of kids leaving home

COLLEGE - Continued from Page 1

who gets my crazy sense of humor, lost on most, and a large home with no children.

Our cats have become the kids' surrogates. And if you don't believe me, I offer you this.

I was outside watering my dying perennials Wednesday (I'll blame it on the heat). I leave the door open because our two cats like to come outside and roll around on the pitted concrete patio. It's warm and feels good on their hides. After about two minutes of watering I hear some panicked chirping. I ignored it for a couple seconds because birds are crazy creatures. But then I turned and see

the boy, Bailey, hunkered down on the brick step as several robins dive bomb him.

"Hey, whatya think you're doing," I yelled over at the crazed robins with their feathers all poofed out. I start to walk over as Bailey belly crawls toward the house, looking around, still under attack.

But he sees me coming and looks at me, "Dad.... what the hell?" is what I imagine from the look on his face.

I actually say out loud, "You OK, buddy?" He stops and turns around now feeling a little more confident with his wing man.

"I can grab a snow

shovel or something...?" yep, actually said that to the cat.

The enemy barnstorming robins flutter up to the top of the fence and look at me and the boy. Angry birds, both of them. Both with ticked off looks in their eyes. I'm a little intimidated.

Bailey starts to flank from their right and to my left. He looks up at me, "I got this, dad." I creep toward the house looking up at the tree. There's a cardinal in there yapping, too. I started thinking Hitchcock and again thought about the shovel, but it was under where the birds were perched and that would have



required some serious speed.

Now, this all happens in about 30 seconds, with all kinds of birds yapping, and an adult man making attack strategies with a cat on a couple of birds.

Then I see a new nest on one of the branches.

"Stand down, Bailey. We've got newbies in the tree."

He looks back as the two robins stare menacingly down from the pickets of the fence. They, too, have a plan.

"C'mere buddy." He doesn't want to give ground. Then my wife comes out.

"What's going on out here," she said.

"Uh..I don't know, these birds were, like, attacking Bailey and I was, like - trying to help - and then he was all, like, squatted

down and I thought about grabbing the shovel, but he was going back inside and then turned around... and now he's, like, trying to go over by the fence and I don't ..really know..."

"Are they trying to get you, Bailey," she asks. He sees mom and comes running to the house.

We had a plan...together....bird wars.

Moms....

We laughed a little on the way in, but I realized that these two cats, the girl was inside - she wanted none of that nonsense, were going to become our children. Not that I ever battled critters with my daughters except on Pokemon (and I think a bat once or twice), but we did go to war on room cleaning, showering, homework, safe driving, and respect of others.


My oldest survives, barely, in New York City... literally the aspiring actress waiting tables in anticipation of her big break. But did I prepare her right? She's not living on the streets, so mom and I must have done something right. Maybe a little too much culture and not enough science, but she's a wonderful girl with wide-eyed aspirations and the biggest city in the world is her playground.

The youngest is smart. Learned from the lessons of the oldest child, a little spoiled - it happens. Mature in many ways and still a baby in others. But now is the time when I question if I did my part to prepare her, too, for the real world.

I guess we're going to find out soon enough. She moves in Aug. 13, a mere eight weeks away. I thought I had another year.


In the meantime, I get this crazy job to keep me from going into battle with my cat on the neighborhood vermin.

But that's Beside the Point.



*Our Family
Thanks
You*

We, the Family of **Bob Kempker**, would like to thank all who stood by us in thought and prayer this past year, especially these past few weeks. Our family pulled strength and comfort from all the expressions of kindness showed to us. All the cards, sentiments, food, and visits throughout this journey are truly appreciated and will be remembered always.



Thank you again,
*Barb Kempker
& Family*

**Saturday
June 24th, 2017**

**Cookout
11am-1pm!**

Fun for the Entire Family!

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY



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